

A&E Page 4

Hear them sing

The A cappella choir is set to hit the road for its fourth tour under its current director

News Page 3

Stay flu free

Don't forget to get your flu shot to stay healthy this flu season at the Baylor health clinic.

SPORTS Page 5

Coming back with a win

Women's basketball is victorious Wednesday when they beat Iowa State 66-51 in Ames, Iowa

In Print

>> ON HOME TURF

The men's tennis team is set to take on SMU today fresh off a win in the Sherwood Collegiate Cup

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On the Web



Don't Feed the Bears

Listen to the Lariat sports desk's predictions for the Super Bowl and find out who they chose for their postseason awards.

Only on

baylorlariat.com

Take a stance

Find out one writer's take on the depiction of torture in the new movie "Zero Dark Thirty." Only on

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Viewpoints

"I agree with Bigelow's claim that it might be more appropriate to direct the disdain of torture toward those who instituted and ordered those tactics instead of a film and its crew."

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Bear Briefs

The place to go to know the places to go

Make a difference

Tickets are on sale for the 26th annual Black Heritage Banquet at 7 p.m. Feb. 12 in Cashion Academic Center. The keynote speaker will be Jasmine Guy of the TV show "A Different World." Tickets are \$10 for the Baylor community and \$20 to the public. For more info, email Kelley_Kimple@baylor.edu.



MARK HUMPHREY | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Female soldiers from 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division train on a firing range while testing new body armor on Sept. 28, 2012, in Fort Campbell, Ky., in preparation for their deployment to Afghanistan.

Pentagon opens combat roles to women in the military

By LOLITA C. BALDOR
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is lifting its ban on women serving in combat, opening hundreds of thousands of front-line positions and potentially elite command jobs after generations of limits on their service, defense officials said Wednesday.

The changes, set to be announced today by Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, will not happen overnight.

The services must now develop plans for allowing women to seek the combat positions, a senior military official said. Some jobs may open as soon as this year, while assessments for others, such as special operations forces, including Navy SEALs and the Army's Delta Force, may take longer.

The services will have until

January 2016 to make a case to that some positions should remain closed to women.

The groundbreaking move recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff overturns a 1994 rule prohibiting women from being assigned to smaller ground combat units.

Officials briefed The Associated Press on the changes on condition of anonymity so they could speak ahead of the official announcement.

There long has been opposition to putting women in combat, based on questions of whether they have the necessary strength and stamina for certain jobs, or whether their presence might hurt unit cohesion.

But as news of Panetta's expected order got out, members of Congress, including the Senate Armed Services Committee chairman, Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., announced

their support.

"It reflects the reality of 21st century military operations," Levin said.

Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, who will be the top Republican on the Armed Services panel, said, however, that he does not believe this will be a broad opening of combat roles for women because there are practical barriers that have to be overcome in order to protect the safety and privacy of all members of the military.

Panetta's move comes in his final weeks as Pentagon chief and just days after President Barack Obama's inaugural speech in which he spoke passionately about equal rights for all.

The new order expands the department's action of nearly a year ago to open about 14,500 combat positions to women,

SEE COMBAT, page 3

Baylor reacts as ban on females serving in combat is lifted

By CAROLINE BREWTON
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Lindsey Wafford doesn't want to serve in a combat position.

But thanks to the lifting of the ban on women serving in combat, this junior cadet from Steinwenden, Germany, can if she ever changes her mind.

Wafford is in her third year in Baylor's ROTC program. Wafford said that at the end of the year, she will attend a summer school where her skills will be evaluated and she will be told what her military career will entail, including which branch she'll be placed in and whether she'll serve active duty.

SEE REACTS, page 3

Dean of nursing school appointed as trustee

By ASHLEY PEREYRA
REPORTER

Dr. Shelley Conroy, dean of the Louise Herrington School of Nursing, has begun a three year term on the Board of Trustees of the Baylor University Medical Center. She was appointed to the position on Jan. 15.

"Dr. Conroy's appointment attests to her extensive knowledge and experience in nursing education and patient care," said Dr. Elizabeth Davis, executive vice president and provost at Baylor. "It also testifies to the strong and effective partnership that exists between our nursing program and the Baylor Health Care System."

Selected from the top members of their fields, all board members are formally appointed and approved by a nominating committee from the Baylor Medical Center. Board members are unpaid and help advise and guide hospital administration in a wide range of topics during their three-year term.

"This an opportunity to strengthen a wonderful partnership between Baylor and Baylor Health," Conroy said. "There are many areas that we have identified for

collaboration that can be enhanced even more."

Conroy became the dean of Louise Herrington School of Nursing on Jan. 1, 2012. She previously worked at the Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Ga., where she was dean, professor and a member of the graduate faculty of the College of Health Professions.

She has a Doctor of Education degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of Central Florida with a specialization in nursing education and a cognate in health policy; a Master of Science degree in maternal-infant nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University's Medical College of Virginia; and a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Virginia Commonwealth University.

Conroy said she has always had a passion for nursing and teaching. She describes her lifelong passions as a "push-pull" phenomenon because she wanted to teach and practice nursing simultaneously. Conroy said the "right doors" opened for her in Florida and she was given the chance

SEE TRUSTEE, page 3

Baylor grads to be honored at alumni banquet

By KATE MCGUIRE
STAFF WRITER

More than 500 Baylor alumni will come together to celebrate the Baylor Alumni Association Hall of Fame award recipients at their annual banquet at 6 p.m. on Friday.

According to vice president and CEO of the association, Jeff

Kilgore, the banquet will be filled with Baylor spirit as alumni to honor phenomenal individuals who continue the Baylor legacy through their hard work and service.

"It's such a broad spectrum of people who we get to celebrate this event," president of the association and 258th district court Judge Elizabeth Coker said.

Last year the association honored 13 alumni and one family with nine diverse awards, including the Distinguished Baylor Black Alumni Award, given to Robert Griffen III, and various service, humanitarian and church awards.

"The greatest reflection of the university is its actual people who attended," Kilgore said. "You can

tell from the range of awards how inspiring these alumni are. We put our arms around them. We thank you for what you've done."

This year the First Families of Baylor Award includes 29 recipients from a six-generation Baylor family.

Not only does the banquet honor alumni, but proceeds from the gala are given to the BAA

Legacy Scholarship Program. The program hopes to provide relatives of alumni the opportunity to receive money to attend Baylor and continue the Baylor legacy, according to the BAA.

"We have a good time," Kilgore said. "It's formal when all 500 alumni are gathered to celebrate, well it's a privilege to attend."

Regents get new members

By KATE MCGUIRE
STAFF WRITER

Dan Hord III and Dr. Christopher Howard began their three-year Wednesday after being announced as the newest members to serve on the Board of regents by Chairman of the Board Richard Willis.

"Our board is working tirelessly to identify and appoint new regents who will bring to our board the high level of experience necessary to continue Baylor's strong upward trajectory in the years to come," Lori Fogleman, director of media communications at Baylor, wrote in an email to the Lariat.

"These two remarkably strong appointments testify to the dedication of the board's work and the quality of their selection process," Fogleman said.

Hord received his bachelor of Business Administration from Baylor in 1989 and has served as chief executive officer and president of Western International Gas and Cylinders, Managing Partner for the Western Property Group and Co-Managing Partner for the Hedloc Investment Co.

"He's a Baylor guy," Willis said. "A lot of time we'll find regents from different boards within the schools at Baylor."

Hord will serve on the Audit and Compliance Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee because he has been active with Baylor.

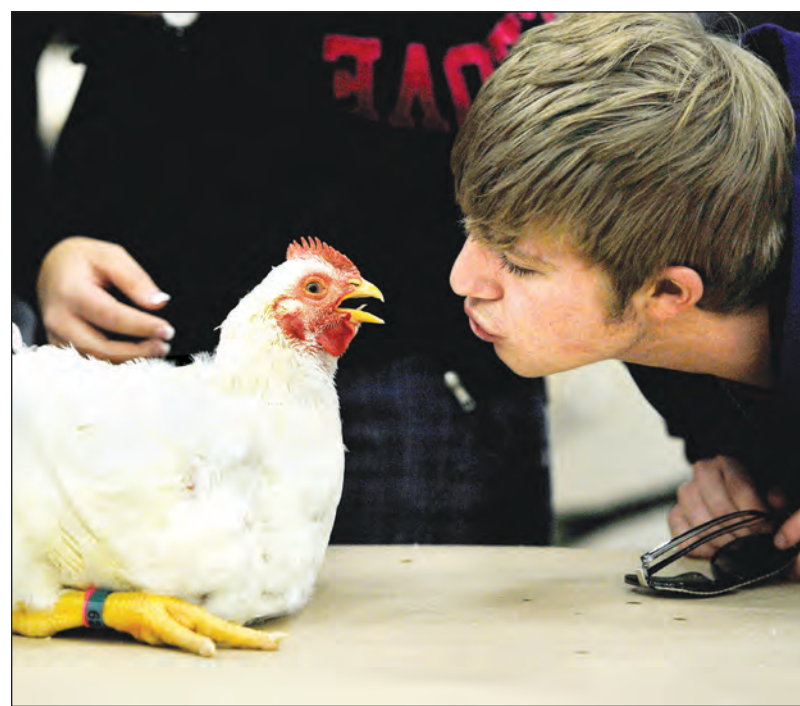
Willis said Howard has background from the other boards on which Howard served.

"Dr. Christopher B. Howard has an incredible resume," Willis said.

Howard is the current president of Hampden-Sydney College, Va.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the United States Air Force Academy.

SEE REGENTS, page 3



ERIC J. SHELTON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicken Kissin'

Jaiton Hays, 16, prepares to kiss his friend Dixon Yaddo's broiler after he won the grand champion award during the Taylor County Livestock Show's Poultry Show at the Taylor County Expo Center's Big Country Hall Wednesday in Abilene. This is Dixon's third year to win the grand champion award during the livestock show's poultry competition.



CHARLIE NEIBERGALL | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Senior center Brittney Griner throws down the 11th dunk of her career. The Lady Bears beat Iowa State 66-51. Griner added 22 points in 33 minutes.

Women dominate in Ames

Griner finishes with 22 points, eight rebounds, six blocks as No. 1 Baylor wins 66-51 over Iowa State

By PARMIDA SCHAHOSSEINI
SPORTS WRITER

Senior center Brittney Griner steals the ball, runs down the court and uses two hands to slam the ball into the basket for her 11th career dunk as the No. 1 Baylor Lady Bears defeat No. 24 Iowa State 66-51 Wednesday at Ames, Iowa. The Lady Bears are now 7-0 in the Big 12 and 17-1 overall.

Griner led the team with 22 points, eight rebounds and six blocks. She is seven blocks away from an NCAA record and is 18 points away from a Big 12 scoring record. Junior guard Odyssey Sims had 12 points, four assists and three rebounds. Senior forward Brooklyn Pope also added eight points and seven rebounds off the bench.

The game began with Griner making a 2-point jumper assisted

by senior guard Kimetria Hayden. Iowa State's Anna Prins responded with a 3-point shot that got the crowd roaring. Hayden answered with a 2-point jumper, but Iowa State continued to pile on outside shots. The game seemed to be going Iowa State's way, but Baylor responded with a Griner two-handed dunk. This was the start of a 17-0 run that left Iowa State scoreless for more than 11 minutes.

With 1:17 left in the half, Iowa State's Nikky Moody hit two free throws to restart the Cyclone offense. Iowa State hit two jumpers to go into halftime with a little momentum.

With two seconds left, head coach Kim Mulkey called a timeout to draw up a play.

Hayden inbounded the ball to Griner.

She then passed to Sims who made a 3-point jumper as time ex-

pired.

In the second half, Iowa State continued to fight, chipping away at the lead as their offense got going. Baylor was having a little bit of trouble hitting foul shots in the second half after making all of them in the first half.

Iowa State kept playing physical ball and went on a 6-0 run. Baylor had a 3-point play as Griner got an offensive rebound, put it in and got fouled.

With just under seven minutes left, Griner got her fourth foul and took a seat on the bench. However, freshman guard Alexis Prince took on a scoring role, hitting three 3-point jumpers.

In the final two minutes, Iowa State went on a 9-0 run, but it wasn't enough. Baylor went on to win the game.

"It's disappointing," head coach Kim Mulkey said. "I don't care

what the score is and at some point you need to be held accountable."

Baylor's tough man-to-man defense was the reason for Iowa State's struggles early in the game. Iowa State had a hard time getting open looks at the basket.

Baylor also appeared to be faster than Iowa State, which allowed many fast break shots.

The Bears also kept their opponents under 50 percent shooting.

"We picked it up a little bit in the second half and that show got us going," Sims said. "That one play gave us a little bit of momentum as we went in."

Baylor also had multiple steals during Iowa State's scoring drought.

The No. 1 Baylor Lady Bears put their streak of 49 consecutive home wins on the line as they face No. 20 Oklahoma State at 11 a.m. on Saturday.

Tennis returns from LA, set for match against SMU

By PHILLIP ERICKSEN
REPORTER

The men's tennis team will look to carry momentum over from a strong showing in the Sherwood Collegiate Cup in Los Angeles last weekend. The team will take on SMU 7 p.m. Friday at home. The team is currently ranked No. 15 in the nation.

Practice this week was built off of the accomplishments from last weekend in Los Angeles. Sophomore Mate Zsiga, junior Robert "Woody" Verzaal, sophomore Diego Galeano and sophomore Tony Lupieri each lost their first round matches and won their next consolation game against players from Stanford, USC and UCLA.

Zsiga won his second round consolation over Ryoto Tachni of UCLA 6-1, 6-3, and Lupieri won 6-2, 6-4 over Matt Kandath of Stanford. Verzaal lost to Stanford's Robert Stineman 3-6, 6-3, 1-10, but rebounded Sunday to defeat UCLA's Seth Stolar 6-0, 6-4.

Sophomore Marko Krickovic played the best match in Los Angeles, upsetting 39th ranked John Morrissey of Stanford in a three-set thriller on Saturday. The final set count was 7-5, 6-7 (3), 16-14.

"It's just nice to start the season

"I'm leading by example, but the new players pick up [what] everyone else is doing. They understand what it takes to be a Baylor Bear."

Woody Verzaal | Men's Tennis

with a good win," Krickovic said. "Our goal is to win the Big 12."

Ranked 50th in the nation, Krickovic is focused on succeeding this season by playing more aggressively and further developing

his style of play.

He also looks forward to a March matchup against top-ranked Virginia at home, as well as a late season date with Oklahoma, a main rival in the Big 12.

The doubles teams of Lupieri/Krickovic and Zsiga/Galeano lost two matches each.

According to head coach Matt Knoll, not all players attended the tournament, and the team isn't focusing on doubles this early in the season, as 87 percent of the team's play is in the singles bracket.

"We got guys who will play great doubles," Knoll said.

Knoll is currently in his 17th season as the Bears' head coach. Knoll has seen much success, including a National Championship in 2004. Over the past 13 years, he has led the team to 10 Big 12 titles.

In preparing for Friday's matches against SMU, Knoll is concentrating on improvement. Knoll's enthusiasm has even inspired the players to practice on their own during a day off on Tuesday.

"We focus on ourselves and we're working on things we need to work on," he said.

The team will play its home opener of the 2013 season at the Jim and Nell Hawkins Indoor Tennis Center located next to the Ferrell Center.

Junior Robert "Woody" Verzaal, who picked up two wins at the Sherwood Cup, expressed excitement over the new facility, as well as the team's chemistry heading into the 2013 season.

"I'm leading by example, but the new players pick up [what] everyone else is doing," Verzaal said. "They understand what it takes to be a Baylor Bear."

"It's as nice a playing environment as I've ever seen," Knoll said. "It's created a real enthusiasm in the guys."

Knoll and his players are focusing on the match and not the allure of the new facility.

"We're not distracted by the pomp and circumstance of the facility," Knoll said.



LARIAT FILE PHOTO

Junior Robert "Woody" Verzaal hits a forehand in a match last spring. Verzaal finished last season 13-11 in singles matches and 9-4 in doubles.

Seattle, Sacramento deserve NBA teams

By DANIEL HILL
SPORTS WRITER

In 2008, the NBA's SuperSonics were stolen from the city of Seattle and then made their way to Oklahoma City, where they were renamed the Thunder. The wheels are now in motion to make the current Sacramento Kings the new Seattle SuperSonics.

SPORTS TAKE

An ownership group from Seattle purchased a controlling interest of the Sacramento Kings. Under this agreement, it's safe to say that the Kings might not be in Sacramento for next season.

The sale of the team from the Maloof family to Chris Hansen still needs to be approved by the NBA's Board of Governors. Hansen is a wealthy hedge-fund manager who grew up in Seattle as a Sonics fan. Hansen, the public voice of the Seattle ownership group, has already purchased land and released a design for a new downtown arena, close in proximity to where the MLB's Mariners and NFL's Seahawks play. If the Kings are moved to Seattle, the Kings could play next season in Seattle's Key Arena as a temporary home until Hansen's new arena is finalized. Key Arena used to house the Sonics and is right by the Space Needle.

Sacramento mayor Kevin Johnson, who happens to be a former NBA player himself, has exhausted every avenue for the last few years to try to keep the Kings in Sacramento by finding new local ownership. Despite mayor Johnson's best efforts, the momentum and the facts illustrate that the NBA might not be in Sacramento next season. Clay Bennett, the chairman and CEO of the Oklahoma City Thunder, originally purchased the Sonics from Starbucks mogul Howard Schultz. Seattle natives are upset with the way Bennett handled the relocation of the Sonics.



ELAINE THOMPSON | ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chris Hansen speaks to supporters of a proposal for a new NBA arena during a rally Monday in Seattle. The Maloof family agreed on Monday to sell the Kings to a Seattle group led by Hansen for \$525 million.

First, Bennett insisted that he purchased the team to keep them in Seattle. Then he proceeded with a lackluster effort to build a new arena. Then when he was in the clear, he moved the franchise to Oklahoma City.

The problem is that the NBA will pit one city against another in an effort to secure public funds to build an arena. Owners of professional sports teams will rob the public with new and higher taxes in an effort to build a new arena that will produce better profits. Seattle was unwilling to give Clay Bennett what he wanted so he moved the team to Oklahoma City.

Now, history is repeating itself because the Sacramento ownership has been threatening to move the Kings for years now unless they get a new arena. The Sacramento ownership caved in and has now sold the Kings to out-of-town owners who are almost certain to relocate the team to Seattle.

Sacramento has been a fantastic NBA town since 1985. Kings fans have a reputation for being some of the loudest in the league and now it seems like they won't have a team. Seattle had 41 years of NBA history with the SuperSonics, including the 1979 NBA title. It's not right that they had to lose their team.

It's not fair to the fans and it's not fair to the city to have an NBA team head out of town because of mistake-ridden ownership.

The Kings do appear to be in good hands as Hansen has teamed up with Steve Ballmer (CEO of Microsoft) and the Nordstrom brothers (Peter and Erik), wealthy Seattle locals who genuinely care about the future of NBA basketball. Although the Kings won't be in Sacramento anymore, the franchise will be secure under strong ownership in Seattle.

The Sonics should have never left Seattle and the Kings never should leave Sacramento.

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